



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Robert Steger
SERIAL NO.: 10/630,584
FILING DATE: July 29, 2003
TITLE: METHOD FOR BALANCING RETURN CURRENTS IN
PLASMA PROCESSING APPARATUS
EXAMINER: [unknown]
ART UNIT: [unknown]

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class
Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1405, on the date
printed below:

Date: June 17, 2005

Name: 

Michelle R. Crosby

Mail Stop: Amendment
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P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Each item of information listed in the attached FORM PTO-1449, for which a copy of each is attached (unless the blanket waiver referred to below applies), may be material to the examination of the above-identified application and is, therefore, submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The Examiner is requested to review, consider and document each such item in the official record of this application.

Note: If this box ☒ is checked, this case was filed after June 30, 2003 and qualifies for the blanket waiver of deposit of copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications in accordance with the written waiver of 37 CFR §1.98 (a)(2)(i) dated July 11, 2003. Accordingly, such copies are not attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any one or more of these items constitutes prior art.

I

This statement is filed pursuant to **(CHECK ONE BOX)**:



37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

This information disclosure statement is filed either:

- (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
- (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application;
- (3) before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits; or
- (4) before the mailing of a first office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, **whichever event occurs last.**

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires no fee and no certification.



37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

This information disclosure statement is filed **after** the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of any of the following:

- (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113;
- (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or
- (3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires either:

- (1) the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); or
- (2) a certification according to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2).



37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

This information disclosure statement is filed **after** the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c).

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires:

- (1) a certification in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and
- (2) the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p) to consider an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

If this statement crosses in the mail with an office action, or is otherwise not in the indicated category of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, it is respectfully requested that this statement be treated in the next appropriate category and made of record. **To the extent required, please treat this paper as a conditional petition for acceptance of the information disclosure statement.**

II

Fees Due (CHECK ONE BOX):

- ☒ No fee is due.
- ☐ The fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) or 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) is enclosed (\$180).

III

Certification (CHECK ONE BOX):

- ☐ No certification is necessary.
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies:
That each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned hereby certifies:
No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.


IV

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment to our deposit account number 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP

Dated: June 17, 2005



David B. Ritchie
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TRANSMITTAL FORM

Application Number	10/630,584
Filing Date	July 29, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert J. Steger
Art Unit	1753
Examiner Name	unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	LAM-P1093

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 8

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

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under 37 CFR1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)
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Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm	THELEN, REID, & PRIEST LLP		
Signature			
Printed Name	David B. Ritchie		
Date	June 17, 2005	Reg. No.	31,562

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Signature		Date	June 17, 2005
Typed or printed name	Michelle R. Crosby		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.